

# Regular Meeting

<b>Agenda Item #</b>	1
<b>Meeting Date</b>	23 October 2006
<b>Prepared By</b>	David Suls Associate Planner
<b>Approved By</b>	Barbara B. Matthews City Manager

<b>Discussion Item</b>	Resolution Endorsing Proposed Safe Routes to School Application
<b>Background</b>	<p>The Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO) is administering a new federal grant program–Safe Routes to School. The purpose of the grant is to increase the number of children who walk or bike to school and to improve the safety of those doing so.</p> <p>The proposed program components to be included in the City’s application for Safe Routes to School funding was reviewed by the Council at the September 18, 2006 worksession. It was met with the general approval of the Council.</p> <p>If endorsed, the City would request an estimated \$402,825 in Safe Routes to School funds from MHSO for a variety of pedestrian and bicycle safety programs and infrastructure projects focused on schools (K-8). The proposed projects and programs include:</p> <p><b><u>Infrastructure projects</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Installing a sidewalk on Grant Avenue from Takoma Piney Branch Park’s south exit to the existing sidewalk adjacent to Takoma Park Middle School.</li> <li>2. Address issues with the pedestrian bridge and sidewalk on Maple Avenue at the intersection with Sligo Creek Parkway.</li> <li>3. Installing a sidewalk on the east side of Piney Branch Road between Philadelphia Avenue and Grant Avenue.</li> </ol> <p><b><u>Non-infrastructure programs</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Extend hours for select crossing guard locations.</li> <li>2. Two-way radios for crossing guards.</li> <li>3. Part-time program coordinator.</li> <li>4. Student program for maintenance of wooded trail on Takoma Park Middle School property.</li> <li>5. Mapping program with students to designate safe routes through the City, followed by signs and/or sidewalk markings.</li> <li>6. Pedestrian and/or bicycle safety programs at participating schools.</li> </ol>

	<p>7. Bicycle and skateboard summer program.</p> <p>8. Publicity, outreach, and other programs such as ‘Walking School Bus’.</p> <p>9. Evaluation of the entire project, as required by the grant.</p> <p>The Council will be asked to adopt a Resolution supporting the submission of the proposed Safe Routes to School application.</p>
<b>Policy</b>	To support a hierarchy of sidewalks, paths, and bikeways connecting to parks, schools, shops, and other public facilities. <i>-Takoma Park Master Plan</i>
<b>Fiscal Impact</b>	None
<b>Attachments</b>	Resolution Endorsing Safe Routes to School Application
<b>Recommendation</b>	Approve draft resolution endorsing application grant application
<b>Special Consideration</b>	The proposed application is due November 15, 2006.

Introduced by:

**Resolution 2006-**

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL APPLICATION**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Takoma Park City Council recognizes that there is a significant need for pedestrian safety improvements, especially concerning school children; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Takoma Park City Council supports improving pedestrian safety through safety programs and infrastructure improvements; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Maryland Highway Safety Office (MHSO) through Safe Routes to School or in cooperation with other State departments or agencies, may provide all of the financing for the Projects (the "Project Financing") in order to assist in making them financially feasible.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the City of Takoma Park City Council hereby endorses the Safe Routes to School program application and hereby approves the request in the form of a grant; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, the City Manager is hereby authorized to submit the application to Maryland State Highway Office for funding through Safe Routes to School, execute documents, and take any action necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution.

Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2006.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessie Carpenter, City Clerk

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Kathy Porter, Mayor